LEARNING TO BE A FARMER—See page 7

Children's Newspaper

Every Wednesday—Threepence

FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE

No. 1770, February 21, 1953

INTERVIEWING ARCHIE

Radio favourite talks to the C N, with Peter Brough in the background

By Edward Lanchbery

"Brough," complained Archie Andrews, "I do wish you would take that throat pastille out of your mouth. You just don't know what it is doing to my voice."

"It's this weather, Archie," said Peter Brough. "I think I am starting a cold."

"Well, I hope you keep it to yourself, Brough. There's no need to give it to me as well. Or is there?"

Archie Andrews, whose programme, Educating Archie, has just been voted Radio's most entertaining show for the second time in three years, turned to me and smacked his lips.

"Top of the poll two years out of three," he repeated. "I think I've earned this face-lift, don't you?"

Within the next few weeks a beauty treatment costing £5000 will be transforming Archie Andrews into the most lifelike ventriloquist's dummy in the world. A plastic skin with muscles of foam rubber will enable him to purse his lips and whistle, or frown and wrinkle his brow. In fact, there will be few human expressions that he will not be able to register in a most realistic manner. If he does become a little vain about his appearance it will be quite understandable.

"Now then," put in Archie sharply, "who are you calling vain?"

"Well, Archie," I said, "isn't it really your vanity that has so far made you steer clear of the brilliant lights and harsh shadows of television?"

Archie was too busy denying that there was any vanity in him to pass any comment about television; but personally I should not be surprised if this new beauty treatment does not turn out to be a step towards his regular appearance on T V.

Television, of course, does seem the more natural medium for him; and in the beginning Archie Andrews did have the greatest difficulty in getting on the Radio.

"It's all right for grown-ups to say that ordinary children should be seen and not heard," said Archie, "but the B B C thought I ought to be heard and *seen.* Otherwise, they said, listeners might think I was a fake. Now, I ask you. *Me!* Do I look like a fake?"

When Archie was finally given his chance on Radio, the last thing listeners worried about was how genuine or expert the ventriloquism was. On the contrary, the fact that they were not constantly reminded by their eyes that Archie Andrews was a dummy, made listeners inclined to think of him more as a real person—a saucy, mischievous rascal.

Archie's success as the highlight of the Navy Mixture series led to the introduction of his own named programme, Educating Archie, just on three years ago.

"I suppose," I said, "you began as a chip off the old block?"

Archie stared at me and then turned and looked Peter Brough up and down. "Now if you had said that Peter Brough was a chip off the old block you'd have had something," he remarked at last.

Archie was right in a way, because both Peter Brough's father and grandfather were ventriloquists. That is why, as a boy of eight, he began practising himself. If you would like to try your own hand—or, rather, your voice—at ventriloquism this is the way Peter Brough suggests you should go about it:

Take a deep breath. Keep your teeth tightly closed, but leave the lips slightly parted.

Watch in a mirror to see that you do not move your lips, and try to speak from deep down in

Continued on page 2

Strange craft in school

A London girls' school has a strange craft hanging in its geography room. It is a catamaran bought by Captain R. T. Harries of the motor-vessel Menestheus when cruising round the Philippine Islands, and sent by him as a gift to the Tollington Park Secondary School, Finsbury Park.

The word catamaran means "tied wood," and this is a good description, for it consists of wood and plaited fibre lashed together. It is a light-weight, sleek, shallow affair, painted black and white, with bamboo outrigger and a small sail. It is steered by a paddle.

KEEPSAKE

Some of the crew of the Menestheus tried out the catamaran in calm water, and one of them described it, in a letter to the Tollington Park girls, as "a rather complicated way of having a swim."

This school began its friendship (under the British Ship Adoption Scheme) with the Menestheus of the Blue Funnel Line in 1949. Since then the girls have been following her voyages and hearing of her many and varied cargoes. Now they have a fine keepsake.

LOCOMOTIVE TAKEN FOR A RIDE

Many train-spotters saw the unusual spectacle of a locomotive travelling as "goods" en route for Birkenhead the other Sunday.

The locomotive was an 85-ton diesel-electric built at Loughborough for the Ceylon Government Railway, and as it has a wheel-gauge of 5 feet 6 inches it could not use its own wheels on our tracks.

Owing to its extreme width—ten feet—the engine had to be mounted on special bogies so that it could be slewed round to avoid obstructions on the route.

There are now 100,000 train-spotters in Britain. Their concentration on their hobby was shown when 600 of them, not long ago, made a tour of an Eastern Region locomotive works. At the end of the day one youngster was asked whether he had had anything to eat. In sudden surprise he replied: "I forgot all about food; my sandwiches are still in my haversack!"

THANKS—IN A BIG WAY

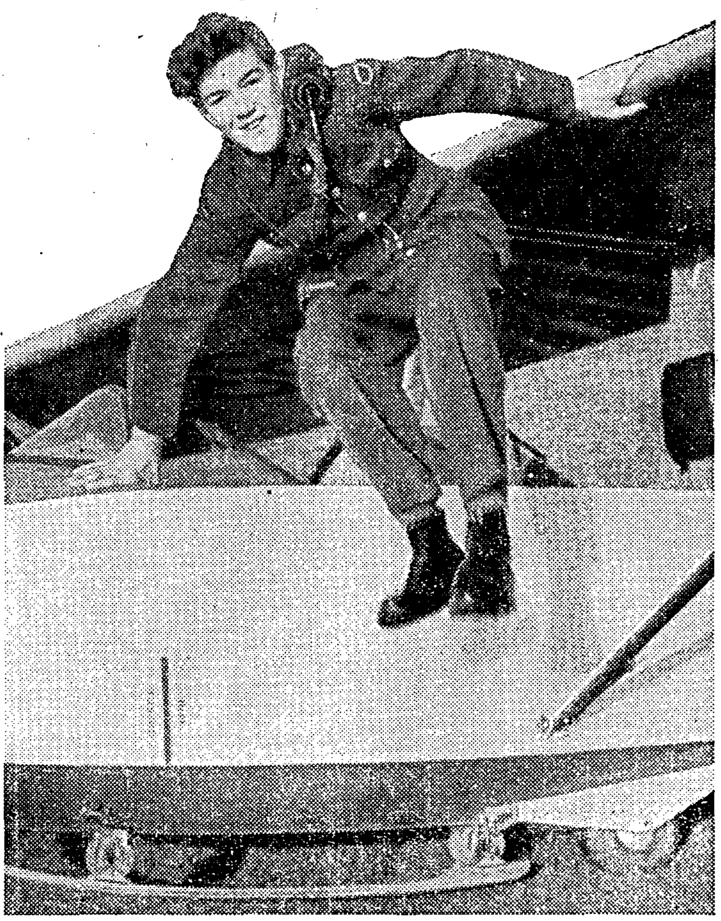
An elephant has been presented to New Zealand by the All-India Women's Conference.

A gift from the women and children of India as thanks for milk powder given by New Zealand, it will go to Wellington Zoo.

HE FOLLOWED THE GAME

A memorial clock to a devoted supporter has been put up at the Northampton Rugby Club headquarters. He was a paralysed boy.

Flying farmer's boy



Bob Snook, who works on his father's farm at Basingstoke, Hampshire, leaps from the cockpit of a glider. Sixteen-year-old Bob is a keen member of the A.T.C., and is learning to fly at White Waltham, Berkshire.

LOG CABIN FOR BOYS OF BIRMINGHAM

Plans are complete for the building of a real log cabin for the use of the Birmingham Federation of Boys' Clubs. Costing £5000, it will be erected in a coppice clearing close to Earlswood Lakes, within ten miles of the city centre.

Equipment will be available from the Federation's old camping site at Bromsgrove, but the new site has the advantage not only of a coppice for woodcraft and a convenient meadow for games, but also of boating and swimming in the lakes. Twenty boys will be able to stay in the camp at the same time.

LITTLE FRENCHMEN HAD A BUSY DAY

Most of us would be dismayed at the idea of eleven-and-a-half hours out of the 24 spent at lessons and "prep." But that was part of the regular term-time routine of a schoolboy at the Lycée of Limoges in 1810.

The rest of his day consisted of one and a half hours for his meals, two hours for recreation, half-an-hour for washing, dressing, and so on, and eight-and-a-half hours for sleep. He must have welcomed "les vacances."

REDSKINS ARE AIRBORNE

The Navaho Indians, who inhabit 29,000 square miles of the wildest and most remote territory in North America, are organising their own all-Indian auxiliary air units, the U.S. Air Force announces.

There are already more than 30 air strips in the Navaho domain, and more are under construction.

The first Navaho Squadron was recently formed after conferences in Washington between Sam Ankeah, chairman of the Navaho Tribal Council, and the Civil Air Patrol.

Operation Navaho, to train pilots of small aircraft to take urgent supplies into isolated areas, has just been completed. It brought household gifts and tobacco to about 12,500 Navaho Indians, with sweets and toys for their children. The parachutes used to drop the goods can be made into clothing by the Indians.

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ALL EYES ON FORMOSA

By the CN Diplomatic Correspondent

BECAUSE of a swift decision by the United States Government, the Chinese island of Formosa, or Taiwan, has become a focal point of attention in world affairs.

The decision was to withdraw the U.S. Seventh Fleet from its role of protecting the Chinese mainland against possible attacks from Formosa, and it has caused much concern.

President Eisenhower, announcing the new move, made his first major departure from the ideas of his predecessor.

It was Mr. Truman who ordered the U.S. Seventh Fleet to act as a guard on Formosa. In his opinion the island had become a danger-spot because Chiang Kai-shek, the leader of the Chinese Nationalist forces, had made his headquarters there.

Chiang Kai-shek had been defeated on the mainland by his Communist countrymen, but he still had many thousands of fighting men under his command.

Mr. Truman's policy was to neutralise Formosa, using a fleet to prevent any clashes between Chinese Nationalists on the island and the Communists on the mainland who had set up a Government at Peking.

CONFINING THE CONFLICT

The Korean war had begun and the United Nations were agreed that the area of conflict must not be allowed to spread. And therein lies the chief concern over the reversal of Mr. Truman's decision by his successor at the White House.

President Eisenhower has declared that he sees no logic or sense in using an American Fleet to protect the Chinese Communists, who are making war on United Nations forces. He therefore issued instructions to the Seventh Fleet "that it no longer be employed to shield Communist China "—that is, from Chiang Kai-shek's forces.

Certainly the decision on how they should use their fleets must rest with the Americans; but at the same time there is much disagreement with the policy behind this far-reaching step.

DANGER SPOT

It is regarded with concern by leading statesmen of all parties in Britain. They feel that an important restraint on a potential danger spot in the Far East has been removed.

The arguments for and against the "deneutralisation" of Formosa, as the Americans call the decision, are many. The most important factor of all is the bearing it will have on the war in Korea.

America may think that their pronouncement will have a chastening effect on the attitude of the Chinese Communists. Britain clearly does not think it will.

There is no doubt that the Chinese Communists have a genuine fear of encirclement, and a belief that the Americans mean to encircle them and dispossess them of power in China.

They see Formosa under American supervision as a constant peril to their safety. Indeed, the Chinese entry into the Korean war was partly intended to counter the threat they felt from Formosa.

One ambition of the Chinese Communists is to invade Formosa, uproot the Nationalist forces there, and keep the island as a bastion of the mainland. Plans were made to do so, but they were too expensive to operate, and Korea became their chosen battlefield instead.

No one, of course, wants to see war extended to Formosa or China, hence the misgivings aroused by President Eisenhower's decision about the Seventh Fleet.

For his part, the President promised the American electors that he would make new efforts to bring the Korean war to an end, and he would not have given fresh orders to the fleet in Formosan waters had he not seen them as a move for improving the situation of the United Nations in Korea.

AMBITIOUS LEADER

The deneutralisation of Formosa does not of itself embroil U.S. troops in an extension of the war to China. The one most closely affected is Chiang Kai-shek himself. This ambitious leader is not held in high esteem by all countries concerned.

As a general and as a statesman his enterprises have been far from successful; nevertheless, he is still recognised by many countries as the head of the legal Government of China.

With so many conflicting issues it is not difficult to understand why so much anxiety has followed President Eisenhower's decision about Formosa.

◆

ROUND-THE-WORLD TICKET

A round-the-world airline ticket costing about £1370 was sold to an American business man at the BOAC offices in Chicago. The traveller will use the services of 15 airlines to visit 26 countries on his global trip.

Million dollars buys new hope

The Ford Foundation has given a million dollars to the voluntary agencies which are helping refugees.

This is a splendid recognition of the devoted work of hundreds of men and women in many parts of the Continent who are striving to lift one of the biggest burdens on the life of the world.

This gift will mean the speedy removal of 500 farming families to Canada, where the railway companies are providing temporary homes out in the prairie provinces of the west. It will mean that each month 40 people will be found homes through the churches of Canada, who are looking out for new friends for the homeless people.

KEEPING TOGETHER

In Brazil there is a scheme of colonisation which is asking for a hundred families from Austria. They will have a chance of keeping together, speaking their own tongue, and settling a big tract of country in their own manner.

The million dollars will also mean hope for 40 families in the newly-built village of Riziani in Greece, where all kinds of organisations are working together to set the village going. Clothing, poultry, seed, ploughs, houses, tractors are all being provided.

Much of the million will go toward training young people in Germany and Italy for emigration, and to help them to look at the future as a bright one.

◆

WALKIE-TALKIES TO FIGHT FIRE

In an attempt to lessen the ever-present threat of fire to the huge forests on the Norfolk and Suffolk border, walkie-talkie wireless sets may soon be used by the forest patrols. At present, fires are spotted from tall watch towers and reported by telephone.

Experiments have already been made with the new equipment in the 30,000-acre forest of Thetford Chase.

INTERVIEWING ARCHIE

Continued from page 1

your stomach at the same time slowly letting the air out between your teeth.

The best sound to start with is a long "aah" like a groan. When you can do this satisfactorily, practise on the letters of the alphabet and simple words like "Hallo." The really difficult letters that will need lots of practice and patience are: B, F, M, P, V.

When you have become expert and can manage a phrase like "brown bread and butter" you can start thinking about getting a dummy, and finding a voice for it that is quite unlike your ordinary one.

Archie Andrews shifted impatiently on Peter Brough's knee. "I thought, Brough," he said, "the gentleman was asking how I came into being."

"I found the voice first," Peter Brough said, "and just afterwards met Ted Kavanagh, the Itma script-writer."

"That's right," interrupted Archie, "Ted Kavanagh's my godfather."

"As I was saying," continued Peter Brough, "I asked Ted if he had any ideas for a name to fit the voice and he said right away: 'Archie Andrews.' We then drew a face to fit both the voice and the name, and from that this was created."

Five times Archie Andrews has entertained the royal family. Once at Windsor Castle, King George VI unscrewed his head to show the family how Archie worked.

"That's right," Archie agreed. "'You're the only man I have ever beheaded,' the king said to me afterwards."

Come to think of it, of all the men beheaded throughout history Archie Andrews is the only one who has been able to boast about it afterwards.

News from Everywhere

HIGH SCHOOL

Aeroplane trips are included in the geography lessons at a school in Mildura, Australia.

Quads have been born to a sheep at Huntsham, Devon, for the second year running, and a cow at Fairview, Montana, has given birth to five calves.

A United Nations report points out that apart from the evil effects of oil on sandy beaches, there is also the danger of fire from oily deposits on docks and waterways.

The Toc H branch at Newport, Isle of Wight, collected £245 last year for the repair of the town's almshouses.

Snow in the Austrian mountains which threatens to develop into *avalanches is to be shot down* with rockets.

LOOKING AHEAD

A fancy-dress ball at which people will wear what they think *clothing styles will be in the year* 2000 is being held in Exeter this Friday.

A new cable to replace one laid in 1925 is being laid across the *Atlantic from La Spezia in Italy to* the north-east of Brazil.

Pony breeders from all over the world will meet in Edinburgh next week for the second world congress of their international federation.

FAMILY MUSIC

Walthamstow's Music Festival this year will include a section for family groups. Entrants may be either conventional groups or novelties such as mouthorgan, banjo, and piano trios.

The Scout's Gilt Cross has been awarded to Colin Stuttard, aged 12, of Bewdley, and his bother Ian, aged 11, for rescuing another boy from drowning in the Severn.

Courses for U.S. Air Force men in Britain are to be held next month at Madingley Hall, Cambridge University.

Eighty-one-year-old Mrs. Margaret Hill of Crowell, Oxfordshire, has completed a 40,000-mile journey lasting six months, during which she visited all her 98 relatives in South Africa.

AIRS FOR AIRPORT

London Airport plans to have its own orchestra, which will be made up from air crews, engineers, office workers, and drivers.

Mr. Eric Sherwood of Reading, who is blind, hopes to have collected 3,500,000 metal milk bottle caps by the end of the year. These he will sell for about £100 in aid of funds for the blind.

JOHN FISHER

It was stated in a recent issue of the CN that John Fisher of Chichester had been awarded the U.S. Gallantry Cup for rescuing his father from a bull. John actually received the award for giving First Aid to his father after he had been attacked by a bull.

British aircraft exports last year were worth nearly £44,000,000. Foreign orders for jet planes have been placed up to 1957.

A new school at Morden, Surrey, has a radio and a screen for film strips in every classroom.

Japan has become the 13th country in the world to start a television service.

A hearing aid which can be used as a hairslide or a tiepin has been patented in America.

Nearly 240,000 houses and flats were completed last year, 45,000 more than in 1951.

CLASSES FOR STOKERS

Southwark Council has arranged for classes at which stokers may study methods of firing boilers with the minimum of smoke.

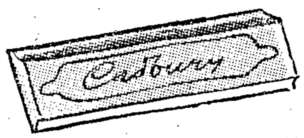
Seventeen more women have joined the unpaid Women's Voluntary Service for work all over the world wherever British troops are stationed.

Every day more than 1000 miles of cinema film is made throughout the world.

Ettlingen, in Germany, with a population of 16,000, is to have a sports stadium to hold 80,000.

Mr. Alexander Hardie of Stirling, a baker who has just retired, was never late for work in 41 years.

He wants Cadburys Dairy Milk Chocolate—and he's right. It has a lovely creamy taste, and that's why it's often saved specially for children. Everyone who likes milk chocolate says 'Please . . . I want Cadburys!'



GREAT DREDGERS IN PAKISTAN

The people of East Pakistan have been eagerly awaiting the arrival of the "Animal Bahr," a giant dredger launched at the end of November at Amsterdam.

This is the first of 36 great dredgers that will go to Pakistan to create navigable waterways through many hundreds of miles of waste land where the Rivers Ganges and Brahmaputra overflow their banks.

When the rivers, with the help of these dredgers, have been kept in proper channels, vast areas of rich soil will be reclaimed for farming.

The Animal Bahr is 216 feet long and will keep a thousand men busy throughout the year.

◆

MODEL PLANES IN WORLD CONTEST

This Coronation year the Model Aircraft World Championship will be held in Britain.

On August Bank Holiday week-end, at Cranfield, Bedfordshire, entrants from more than 20 nations will compete for the honour with rubber-driven and power model classes.

This is the first time that two major championship events have ever been held together in the same country, which is due to the British teams successes in last year's contests in Switzerland and Italy.

Elimination Trials, from which this year's British teams will be selected, will start next month. From then until June aero-modellers will be striving for the honour of representing their country in their favourite sport. Out of about a quarter of a million model flyers, four will eventually be selected to represent Britain with rubber models and four with power models.

GOOD NEWS FOR YOUNG AFRICA

Nearly a million African children are expected to benefit this year from steps to combat disease and mulnutrition undertaken by the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (Unicef). Altogether, 15 different African countries and territories will receive help, including Belgian and French colonies, and Egypt, Ethiopia, Liberia, and Libya.

Long-range programmes will be initiated to fight yaws, a crippling, disfiguring skin disease which can be cured by penicillin. Trachoma, an eye disease which is rife in Morocco and Tunisia, will be greatly eased by improved hygiene.

Other diseases like malaria, sleeping sickness, yellow fever, and leprosy will be treated in an attempt to bring new light to Darkest Africa.

◆

TELEPHONE ROBOT

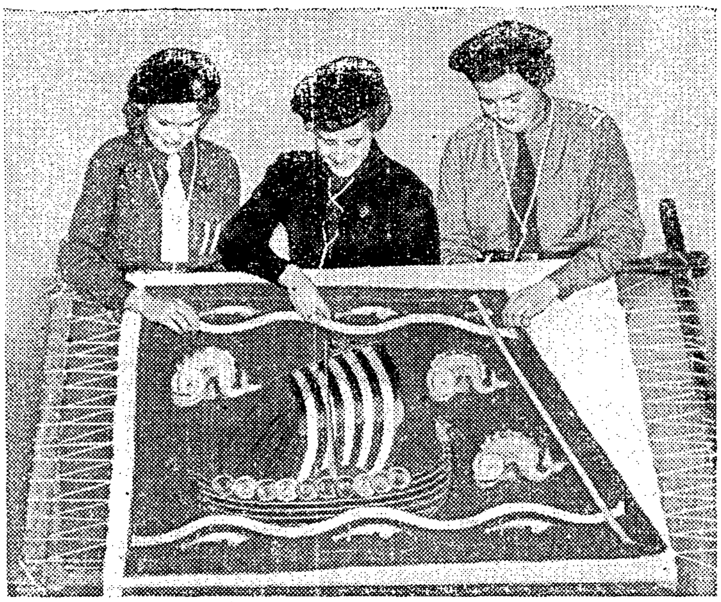
Americans will no longer be able to plead "I'm waiting for an important phone call" as an excuse for remaining indoors in future. A new device on the market will answer the telephone and record up to 20 half-minute messages.

When the phone rings, the machine "answers" with a message which has been pre-recorded by the subscriber and then takes down the caller's message. When the subscriber returns the robot plays back the message received.

◆

CHRISTIAN NAMES IN N.Z.

The favourite name for girls in New Zealand is Margaret, more babies having been given this name last year than any other, though Mary and Ann were close runners-up. As in Britain, the favourite name for boys is John, though Robert is nearly as popular.



Making their Coronation banner

Girl Guides, Rangers, and Brownies in Essex are busy embroidering a banner, designed by the Royal School of Needlework, which they hope to have ready in time for the Coronation. Some of the girls are here seen at work on one of the sections.

HILL-BILLY SONG COLLECTOR

A cowboy film-star, Rex Allen, has the unusual hobby of collecting and recording old songs handed down in America since pioneer days. He seems to be an American counterpart of our own Cecil Sharp, who travelled all over England listening to old songs still remembered in country places, and setting them down on paper before they were forgotten for ever.

Rex Allen travels through America, recording the songs of cowboys and "hill-billys," and he claims to have one of the most complete libraries of their folk music.

◆

PRIZES ON THE WAY

Head teachers of London schools are now choosing the school prizes they will award later this year.

Samples of hundreds of books, sports gear, and handicraft tools are on display at Stockwell, and from these the teachers are selecting the prizes allotted to their particular school. These are then delivered in time for prizegiving.

◆

PACIFIC BIRDS IN NEW YORK

The new Whitney Memorial Hall of Pacific Bird Life at the American Museum of Natural History, New York, represents the generosity of three generations of the exploring Whitney family, famed for their South Sea expedition.

More than 400 species of birds, including New Zealand's extinct moa, are displayed amid their natural surroundings in a great Pacific panorama, with albatrosses and man-o'-war birds soaring in the sky above.

◆

FROM KOREA TO KEW

Sixteen parcels of plants and flowers have been sent to the Royal Botanical Gardens, Kew, by a British sergeant during the past 18 months. Scientists in the laboratories there have thus gained valuable information on the plant life of Korea.

DEEP FREEZE

If a water-main bursts in future at St. Helens, Lancashire, a refrigerator will be part of the repair equipment.

This new idea is now being used by a number of water authorities. The refrigerator is applied to the burst pipe and the water frozen, thus forming a temporary ice plug while a permanent repair is made.

This avoids having to cut off the water over a large area.

GIANT ON THE HIGHWAY

The first of six outsize transformers has been delivered to the British Electricity Authority by the B.T.H. Company, of Rugby. It weighed 140 tons and was taken by road a distance of 70 miles to Staythorpe, Notts.

A specially-designed trailer for these giant transformers weighs an extra 50 tons. Two diesel tractors fitted with power winches and a variety of other gadgets manoeuvre the load along winding roads and over difficult bridges.

The tractor drivers keep in touch by inter-com, and between them guide the trailer, with its 16 road wheels and six extra side wheels. The pushing and the towing vehicles work independently, and can turn at angles of 90 degrees if required.

◆

SOPRANO FLIES TO THE RESCUE

As the principal singer in Aïda at Covent Garden Opera House could not appear because of a sore throat, American soprano Lenora Lafayette flew from Holland to take her place.

At 12.30 p.m. she received a telephone call from London, caught the next plane leaving Holland, and on arrival at London Airport motored to Covent Garden, arriving 75 minutes before the opera was due to begin.

The American soprano sang in Italian because she did not know the English version which the others were singing.

Famous soldiers off duty

People in the public eye can rarely relax, but the camera has caught two world-famous soldiers sharing their off-duty moments with young people. *Above:* General Matthew R. Ridgway, Supreme Commander of Allied Forces in Europe, gives his son Steve a sledge ride while on holiday at Garmisch, Germany. *Left:* Field-Marshal Lord Alanbrooke, who is a keen bird-watcher, shows coloured films of his observations to Irene Western and Averil Jupp at a lecture he gave at the Natural History Museum, London.

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MADAME CURIE

The Radium Woman, by Eleanor Doorly (A Puffin Story Book, 2s.)

THE life of Madame Curie, who with her husband discovered radium, is described here as a tale for boys and girls. How well it succeeds is revealed in an essay by ten-year-old Sylvia Anne Richards, which was published recently by the St. Pancras Journal.

"I like it because it is a very interesting story of a very famous woman, and also because Miss Doorly uses simple but good English so that all can understand," writes Sylvia. "Immediately I returned with this book from the library, I started reading it straight away, and felt I could not put it down until I had finished."

Other young readers will heartily endorse her opinion.

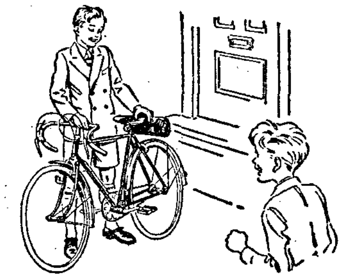
LAUGHTER IN SCHOOL

Jennings and Darbishire, by Anthony Buckeridge (Collins, 6s. 6d.)

HERE is another welcome laughter-book about Jennings, the schoolboy who is full of ideas, and his faithful but unadventurous friend Darbishire, who is so often the victim of them.

These two get themselves into quite uniquely embarrassing situations at Linbury Court School. Most boys and girls meeting Jennings for the first time want to read of his previous exploits; all look forward to future encounters with him.

PROUD OF YOUR BIKE . . . aren't you ?



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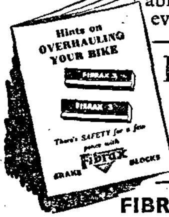
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TURBULENT PRIEST

Thomas Becket of Canterbury, by Alfred Duggan (Faber, 12s. 6d.)

HERE is a book about a famous man whose life and death were an important chapter of English history. The author writes in a simple, straightforward style, and brings to life for us the courageous Archbishop, the "turbulent priest," who refused to give in to Henry II and paid for his defiance with his life.

The struggle between Church and king was an involved business, but Alfred Duggan has converted it all into an exciting book.

INVENTORS ALL

Pioneers of British Industry, by F. George Kay, F.R.S.A. (Rockcliff, 25s.)

THERE are many fascinating tales of inventors in this book about the men who laid the foundations of our nation's wealth.

One concerns young James Nasmyth, of steam-hammer fame.

He went to London from Edinburgh, promising his well-to-do father that he would earn enough to keep himself. He got a job at ten shillings a week, and he invented an oven that cooked his food in his absence for a fuel cost of 3d. a week!

The book tells us much of George Stephenson, J. L. Baird, Graham Bell, and many other men of similar courage, perseverance, and resource who helped to raise our nation to a world power.

BEFORE HISTORY

The Dawn of Creation, by J. Carroll Mansfield (Harrap, 15s.)

THIS is surely one of the most fascinating books for young people that has appeared in recent years. In simple language and with pictures on every page, it outlines the story of our Earth from the time when it was a fiery ball until the beginning of recorded human history.

Sticking to the facts that Science knows today, and avoiding frills and romancing, the American author has produced a book that, once dipped into, is difficult to put down.

RECOMMENDED BOOKS

FRESHWATER AND SALTWATER AQUARIA, by Francis G. W. Knowles (Harrap, 12s. 6d.)

TEACH YOURSELF BANKING, by J. B. Parker, and TEACH YOURSELF ASTRONOMY, by David S. Evans (English Universities Press, 6s. each)

PLAYS FOR THE LOUDSPEAKER, by Fan Kissen (Harrap, 5s.)

MOFFATT NEW TESTAMENT, Vest Pocket Edition, (Hodder and Stoughton, 7s. 6d.)

PUPPET PLAYS FOR CHILDREN, by Antonia Ridge (Faber and Faber, 8s. 6d.)

PONIES AND RIDING IN PICTURES, described by Lt.-Col C. E. G. Hope and pictured by Cavesson (Pitman, 15s.)

THE BOY'S BOOK OF MODEL-MAKING, edited by Staton Abbey (Ward Lock, 21s.)

THE CHILDREN'S WONDER BOOK IN COLOUR, No. 3 (Odhams, 12s. 6d.)

LA SALLE OF THE MISSISSIPPI, by Ronald Syme (Hodder & Stoughton, 6s. 6d.)

CRAVEN HILL, our Zoo Correspondent, reports that for the Bats . . . .

IT WAS ALMOST A RUDE AWAKENING

A COLONY of 16 Pipistrelle bats hibernating in an old oak tree near Epping Forest almost awoke with a start the other day—but not quite.

The tree being "in the way," an explosive charge was laid at its roots and it was blown up. The bats were then found in a hollow limb, and were promptly placed in a child's handbag and sent by rail to the London Zoo by Mrs. L. Locke, of Great Parndon, in Essex.

At the Zoo the bats were found to be very torpid, but they were placed in a special cage at the rodent house, where the warmth is waking them up. They keep uttering high shrill squeaks and, in the words of a keeper, are becoming "very talkative."

ANOTHER interesting new arrival is a baby otter, found beside a Lakeland stream.

This animal, only about three weeks old, appeared to have been deserted by its mother, perhaps because it was born out of season—otters are usually born in early spring.

The cub (which, at the moment of writing, has not yet got its eyes open) was sent by train to Euston by Mrs. J. M. Low, of Braithwaite, near Keswick. Arrangements for its feeding on the journey were made with the train staff.

Now the baby is at the Zoo's sanatorium, being bottle-fed by keepers. It is a ravenous infant, and is apparently doing so well that the men confidently hope to rear it.

AT the reptile house a two-foot Meller's giant chameleon, the biggest the menagerie has ever had, has died in circumstances which must be unique.

The chameleon was living in a cage with a large Australian lizard, and the pair, though from different parts of the world, had seemed to be getting along well together.

Unfortunately, while the lizard was looking for insects in the soft peat on the floor of the den, it saw something moving which it evidently mistook for a worm. It bit the "worm" in half—only to find that it was the end of the chameleon's tail!

Keepers did their best to save the chameleon, but its injury caused it to lose its appetite, and it soon died.

THE last story comes from the lion house, but it does not concern any of the official exhibits.

It is about Nigger, a large black cat which recently went "on the strength" there. Nigger is rapidly making a name for himself as the menagerie's champion rat-catcher.

Born in a stables at St. John's Wood a year ago, Nigger, having already achieved some fame in this line, was acquired by the Zoo and drafted to the home of the big jungle-cats.

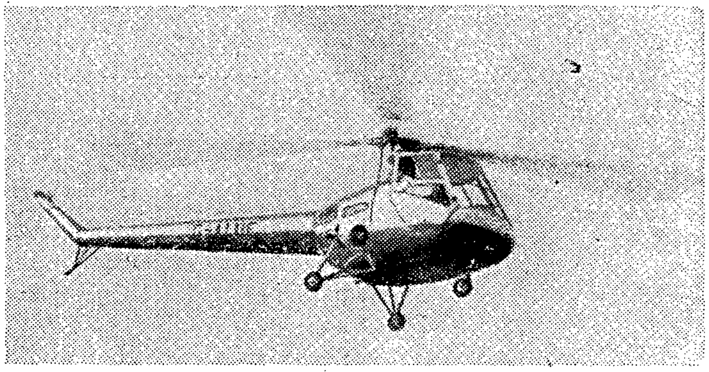
Because of his skill, the keepers turn a blind eye on such occasional misdemeanours as the purloining of titbits from the meat pails!

Nigger does most of his rat-hunting after dark, and has such a fine natural caution that he never enters a cage, nor even ventures near enough to the bars for a lion or leopard to make a grab at him.

His favourite hunting-ground is the service corridor where he lies patiently in wait. Any rat crossing the corridor is caught and killed on the spot. On some nights lately Nigger's bag has been half-a-dozen good-sized rats.

"We have never known one to get away from him yet," a keeper told me. "Maybe it's because his jet-black coat is pretty well invisible in the darkness."

PLANES FOR THE SPOTTER'S NOTEBOOK



33. The Skeeter

The little Skeeter was designed by the Cierva Company after the war as a runabout for private owners and also as a club trainer. It is a light helicopter with a comfortable cabin seating two.

The version shown in our picture is the Saro-Cierva Skeeter 2, powered by a 145 h.p. Gipsy Major 10 four-cylinder air-cooled engine. It is capable of cruising at 88 m.p.h.

A later and more powerful model, the Skeeter Mk. 4, is being produced for the Royal Navy. It has a 180 h.p. Blackburn Cirrus Bombardier engine which drives both the main rotor and the anti-torque rotor at the end of the long tail boom.

Weighing a mere 1200 lbs. empty, and capable of carrying a useful load of 624 lbs., the Skeeter promises to be a useful little work-horse in the Navy for observation and light transport duties.

Rotor diameter: 32 feet. Length: 28 feet 5 inches. Initial rate of climb: 1050 feet a minute.

ON THE AIR

By Ernest Thomson, our Radio and Television Correspondent

New sleuth

HUGO BISHOP, a radio detective, made a solitary appearance last October in a play called Knight Sinister, by Elleston Trevor.

Acted by Robert Eddison, he made such a good impression that listeners asked for more, and I hear that we can soon expect a Hugo Bishop series.

Hugo drives a 1920 Rolls Royce, plays the piano, and prefers chess to crime. He is kept on the trail by his strong-minded secretary, Miss Gorringe, M.A.

Schweitzer play

IS there drama to be found in the combination of music, theology, and medicine? Certainly, when it centres on Dr. Albert Schweitzer.

I hear that T V is to present a new play on his life, by the French playwright Gilbert Cesbron, on the last Sunday of this month.

Albert Schweitzer, now 78, is a doctor three times over—in music, divinity, and medicine. First becoming eminent as an authority on Bach's music, he studied theology and medicine in order to become missionary surgeon at the famous hospital which he founded at Lambarene, in French Equatorial Africa. To obtain funds he toured the world giving organ recitals.

Coronation for Continent?

A COMING series of Anglo-French tests may result in the B B C's Coronation programmes being televised in France, as well as over the Dutch, West German, and Danish T V networks.

The B B C will send pictures from London to Swingate, near Dover, where the beam will be picked up and relayed to Paris.

Next move

CHESS by T V is to be tried for the first time on February 18, when about 20 players will face a master-player in a simultaneous game at the Chess Centre in Oxford Street, London.

Credit for the scheme belongs to Joly de Lotbinière, the 6 foot 5 inch chief of T V Outside Broadcasts, who has long felt that chess can make exciting screen entertainment. Over each board will be an animated diagram showing the positions, and a commentator will explain the moves.

The match will last the whole evening, but T V will be limited to three sessions of 10 minutes. Several young champions will be invited.

Throne and People

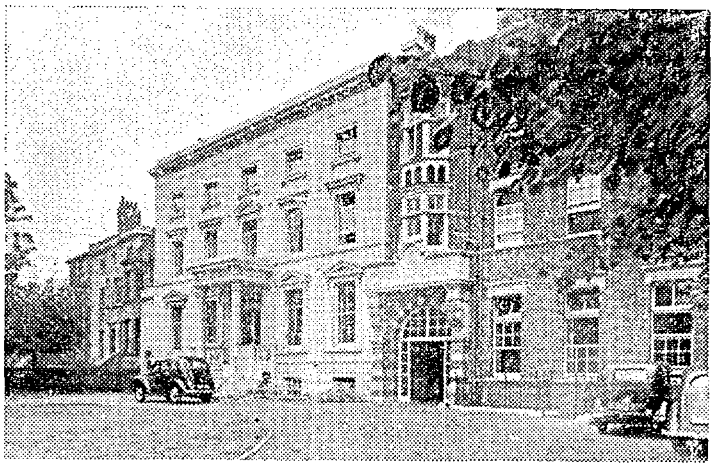
NEXT Sunday the B B C launches the first of its Coronation features in the Home Service.

The Throne and the People is the title of the series, and the opening programme will deal with the life and times of Queen Victoria. It has been written by the well-known broadcaster, Lord Kinross.

Later, we shall hear Edward VII, by Christopher Sykes; George V, by Sir Compton Mackenzie; and Edward VIII and George VI, by John Connell.

GATEWAYS TO SUCCESS

7—Battersea Training College of Domestic Science



The entrance to the College at Clapham Common

DOMESTIC SCIENCE, taking just the root meaning of the word, means "knowing about home." After visiting this Training College I began to realise what a big thing the idea of "home" can become when you have added some real "knowing" about it to your particular slice of life.

The College trains teachers of Domestic Science in schools, and has about 150 students. It started as a branch of the Battersea Polytechnic, but after the war it took over a modest-sized manor house looking across Clapham Common.

It is a handsome old building with modern additions at the side and behind it, and it faces acres and acres of green grass.

IF you happened to think that Domestic Science was a highbrow name for teaching girls six new ways of disguising shepherd's pie, or how to make a bed so that someone can actually sleep in it, you would get a few surprises when you found out the work the girls do here. Their mission will be to pass on the results of their training, and the ideas which lie beneath it, to the children who will make the homes of "One Day."

A girl enters the College at 18, having gained her General Certificate of Education or passed one of the other exams required by the Ministry as a preliminary to training as a teacher.

She will be well advised to spend her last year or two at school paying special attention to quickness and accuracy in arithmetic, to general science with lab. work, and, above all, to English. Ability in using a dictionary and other works of reference, and some familiarity with libraries, is also useful for what will be met with at the College.

Physical fitness is important, and so is her bearing during a personal interview with the Principal.

Some students live in the College, but most of them come daily. The course is free for what are called Recognised Students (those who sign a declaration of their intention to teach) provided that their parents could not otherwise afford to send them to college. For those better off there is a sliding scale of contributions according to income.

THE main work is divided up under the headings of household management, laundrywork, cookery, needlework, applied science and health education, principles of education, teaching, social study, English and speech training. But this is just a list, and lists sound dull. So let us take a look at what the words on the list mean to the student.

Take the first heading, household management. This starts you off on how a house is built, takes you on to ventilation, heating, cleaning, and decoration; and, among other things, goes on to the use of household tools, to first aid, and home management according to various incomes.

In laundrywork you study the various methods of the home wash and the different types of equipment which can be used—washing-machines, wringers, and so on; the kinds and chemical contents of various cleaners, and how different fabrics behave when washed or cleaned.

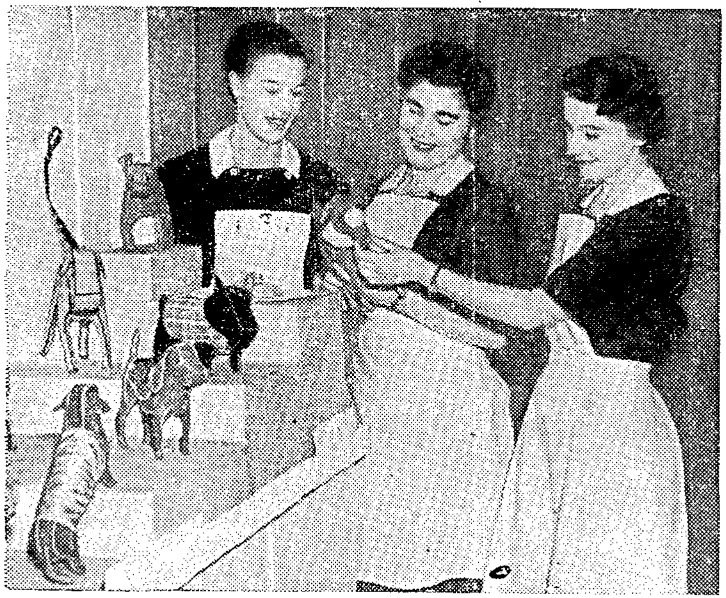
It particularly took my fancy that the cookery class learned to work on electric, gas, coal, and oil-stoves, and had to prepare meals for various types of family. To cook for a farm-worker, for instance, you must know his wages, that he is allowed an extra ration of cheese, and so on. And you would not plan the same meal for him as for an office worker.

And, by the way, the cookery class has to eat its own products! In fact, daily lunch, taken in the College Hall, is partly cooked by the class.

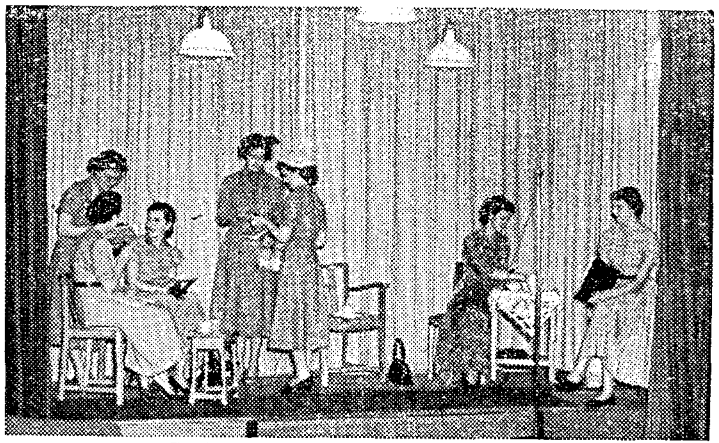
The needlework class studies patterns and cutting-out, mending, and the use and care of a sewing-machine.

Applied science touches the beginnings of physics and chemistry as they concern cleaning and laundrywork, a study of how our bodies are built, and the various foods from the point of view of nourishment, keeping qualities, and so on.

Educational principles cover the relation of school work to one's behaviour. They deal with character training, the different kinds of schools and how they came into being, and also modern teaching methods.



First-year students with soft toys



Students display dresses they have made

THIS is only the sketchiest outline of what each division of the main work amounts to. Of course, the chief object is to get every would-be teacher thoroughly trained in housecraft; but, as you can see, the underlying principles of things are learned too, so that the teacher shall have a really educated point of view.

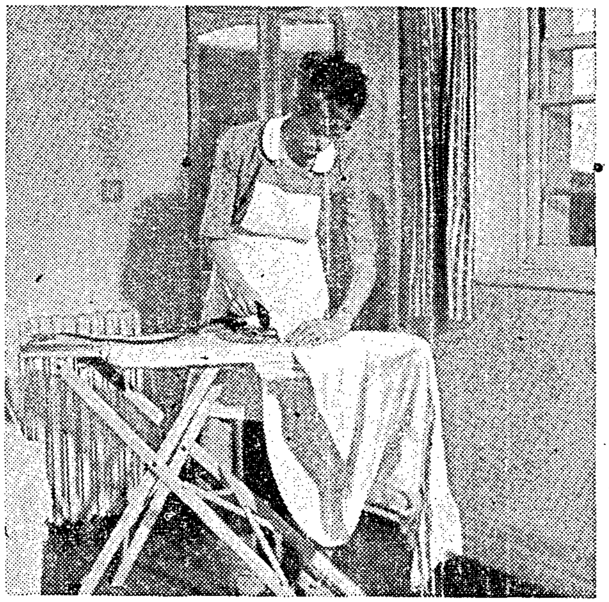
As well as much practical work, visits are paid to schools in order that students may learn—the hard way—about how a class of children look and behave when you try to teach them something. Students also visit museums, art galleries, factories, local government offices, and so on.

In addition to this, students are required to choose some special kind of extra study outside their immediate work. They can take "special art," for instance—drawing, painting, modelling, carving, and some acquaintance with domestic architecture. Or they can take "special craft work," which includes such things as bookbinding, making dress accessories, cutting lino blocks, spinning and weaving, and doll-making.

THE course takes three years, and a successful girl can then apply for appointment as a qualified teacher of Domestic Science. Or she can go on to King's College of Household Science, at Kensington, and study for a B.Sc. (Domestic Science), or else take a University Diploma in Nutrition.

The core of the training here at Battersea seems to consist in learning how to teach children that there is a vital and worth-while work to be done in making and organising a home. From what I saw of it, this course of three years gives any girl who takes real advantage of it the chance to lead a most useful and happy life—whether she reremains a teacher or one day runs a home of her own. A. V. I.

Examining fruit bottled at the College



A student ironing on a skirt board

Cooking in one of the model kitchens

Some of the pictures on this page are reproduced by courtesy of the Electrical Development Association.

Children's Newspaper
John Carpenter House
Whitefriars · London · E.C.4
FEBRUARY 21 1953

CHEERING-UP PROCESS

It is good news that the London County Council is going on with its plan for redecorating in light, pleasant colours some of the old schools which it cannot at present rebuild. Heavy, dull-looking woodwork is being given fresh coats of gay paint.

But there are other public places in Britain which need cheering up, besides schools. Many of our railway stations are far too dreary and drab, and their waiting-rooms dirty as well as cold. A little paint, a little soap, and lots of water would work wonders.

Some of our town halls are also gloomy places, and so are labour exchanges and food offices. Public offices such as these should all be bright and attractive; they should be made into places of good cheer, looking as though to say "Come in, what can we do to help you?"

Every one of us can play a part in cheering up Britain in this Coronation Year. There is our own front gate, our strip of garden—let them be tidy and gay this year!

Let us see to it that this "green and pleasant land" is everywhere worthy of its name! Beginning with our own homes, let us make sure that our buildings all wear a happy look to match our own!

The Editor's Table

The farmers of Lucky Hill

Lucky Hill is in Jamaica. It is the home of 33 farming families who ten years ago were poor and ill-fed, and then, under the inspiration of a Government officer, started a new life.

They formed themselves into a Pioneer Club and settled to farm a hundred acres as a team. Each man had to buy at least four ten-shilling shares in the club, and out of these funds came the first farm buildings, livestock, tools, and machinery.

Lucky Hill bananas and vegetables now provide a wage for each farmer, and a share in the profits; where once there was poverty there is a good living for all.

Lucky Hill farmers have learned the secret of team work and of sharing their labour as well as the results of their produce.

◆

And now comes the drive-in bank

Drive-in cinemas for motorists are becoming increasingly popular. Now, it is reported, the First National Bank of Philadelphia have rearranged part of their premises so that motorists can drive right into the bank.

They can pull up at one of numerous counters and there cash cheques, pay in money, and transact any other business—all without having to get out of their cars!

Weary Willies the world over will applaud this development of the never-walk-a-step-if-you-can-ride principle.

◆

JUST AN IDEA

As the Aga Khan once said: The most fatal and the most stupid thing a man can do is to be discouraged by what he calls bad luck.

Under the Editor's Table

PETER PUCK WANTS TO KNOW

If woodcutters always have axes to grind

When people travelled more slowly they seemed to have more time for everything. Perhaps there were fewer things to have time for.

In some provincial places women police take turns at point duty. Hope it does not make them giddy.

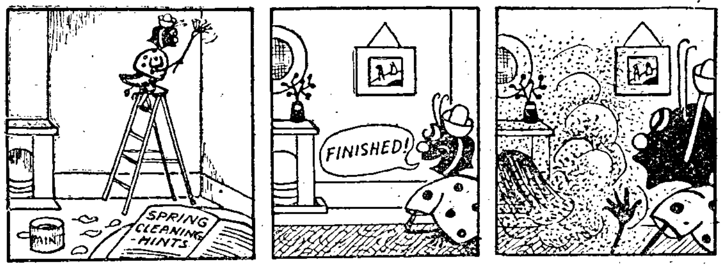
A baby's sock was left in a library book. Somebody had put his foot in it.

A girl who is studying the Law says she wants something to fall back on. Evidently doesn't find it hard.

A soldier has been acting as a baby-sitter. Did the baby give him a call to arms?

A head waiter is retiring after 47 years. Has been waiting a long time to retire.

BILLY BEETLE



CHEQUE-MATE

A student who had done 26 hours' part-time work at Chicago University received a cheque in payment and went home with it. There he found to his amazement that the cheque was made out for 8,000,000 dollars (£2,780,000).

His first impulse must have been to rush into the street, waving the cheque and cheering. Then, realising that the payment was a little more than he had expected, he took it back to the university.

He received the explanation that something must have pressed against the 8,000,000 figure on the cheque-writing machine when the cheque was being stamped.

◆

Youth in the Abbey

Shirley Duncan, 19, of Sheffield, has been chosen by the National Association of Girls' Clubs and Mixed Clubs to attend the Coronation in Westminster Abbey. Shirley, who is a secretary, will be accompanied by a young man under 21, and together they will represent British Youth.

◆

Pronounced success

If you can pronounce the words diphenhydramine hydrochloride and hyoscine hydrobromide, you need not be seasick or air-sick ever again.

According to researchers, these two chemicals are the most effective so far developed for the prevention of "motion sickness."

There are times, however, when travellers' feelings are too deep for words—even these words.

◆

Poetry of heaven

Ye stars! which are the poetry of heaven!
If in your bright leaves we would read the fate
Of men and empires—tis to be forgiven,
That in our aspirations to be great,
Our destinies o'erleap their mortal state,
And claim a kindred with you; for ye are
A beauty and a mystery, and create
In us such love and reverence from afar,
That fortunes, fame, power, life, have named themselves a star.

Byron

Grammar schools supply leaders

"If I am to become an engineer, what is the use of my learning English Literature?" asks many a boy at school. "Why should I learn French when I am going to be an industrial designer?" asks many a girl.

The complete answer to such doubts came the other day from Dr. E. Williams, the Principal of Harrow Technical College.

He said that industry requires technologists from the grammar school, not technicians, "that is, men and women who have a broad foundation of general education upon which has been superimposed specialised scientific knowledge, and who are destined to become leaders in industry and commerce. I am all for a liberal education for technologists."

Most education authorities will agree.

◆

Longer to live

For the first time in the history of mankind the number of years a man living in a civilised country can be expected to live has reached the Biblical "three score years and ten."

The average life-expectancy in this country and in America was only 50 years at the beginning of the century. Since then the average has risen by about 40 per cent.

◆

Thirty Years Ago

One of the commonest words in the newspapers just now is that ominous word *deficit*. Nearly every nation on the Earth is suffering from a deficit in its finances.

Perhaps those finances would be better if the statesmen of the world remembered an old Latin phrase which contains this same word: *Qui non proficit, deficit*. It means, "He who does not go forward, goes backward." The worst that can befall a nation is a moral deficit.

From the Children's Newspaper, February 24, 1923

THINGS SAID

It would be a lamentable thing if the growing power of television or broadcasting, or the appeal of the picture house, were to cause the people of our country to care less for books and the immeasurable joys that come from reading.

The Rt. Hon. Lord Justice Birkett

Though saving money can never be popular, the results of saving can be.

Mr. Anthony Eden

It is surprising that such a tender dream-like story [Peter Pan] should come from a country as sombre, realistic, and unromantic as England, and that the English should have put up a memorial in London to the boy who would not grow up.

A writer in the German paper, Der Kurier

It is most important that in the days through which we are passing we should not forget the recreation side of education.

Len Hutton, Yorkshire and England cricketer

Many boys and girls would rather possess a good memory than anything else, but they do not realise that the great fault of learning by memory is that it often helps to kill the imagination, and they would find that in adult life imagination and versatility were the qualities most needed.

Vice-Chancellor of Leeds University

IN THE COUNTRY

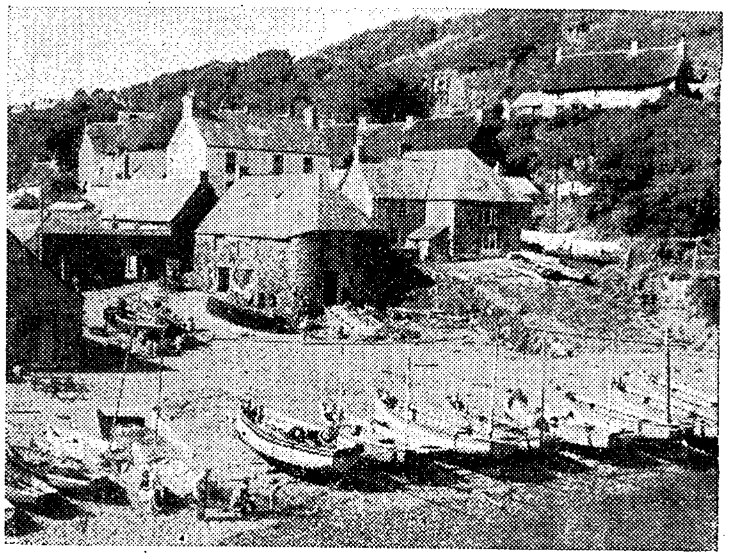
Winter may still linger, but February brings many a foretaste of spring—mild breezes, bird-song again, and buds forming on the hedges.

Truly it is month of promise.

Go down any country lane, and you will sense a renewal of life and activity. In the poet's words:

How gentle are the days that bring
The promise of the faithful year,
Sweet early pledges of the spring,
Sweetest while winter still is near.

As February advances, sights and sounds of the coming spring multiply. New bird-voices are heard, new flowers appear, fresh buds show on the shrubs; there is much to set the heart rejoicing.



OUR HOMELAND

The little Cornish village of Cadgwith

LEARNING TO BE A FARMER

Here is the second of a new series of monthly articles describing the progress of young Ian Farley, who has won a scholarship to an agricultural college

2. On duty in the milking parlour

ONE week during February it became Ian's turn for a spell of duty in the dairy. This meant that he, along with three other boys, had to get up at half-past five in the morning, and present themselves in the dairy, ready to begin milking the college herd of 60 Shorthorn dairy cows.

Their practical work in the afternoons was also in the dairy, helping the cowman with whatever jobs needed doing until they started milking again at half-past three.

Naturally, as with all up-to-date dairy herds, the cows were milked by machine, but it was a type different from any that Ian had ever seen. On Mr. Waring's farm the cows were all housed in a cowshed and ate there, slept there, and were milked there, the milk being carried to the dairy by hand.

MODERN METHODS

On the college farm, however, the cows ate and slept in a large covered yard, coming into a smaller building called a milking parlour twice a day to be milked.

This milking parlour contained eight stalls, each with a permanent milking machine unit attached. There was no carrying of milk; instead, the operator simply moved a small lever after each cow had been milked.

All the milk was then drawn along a pipeline to the adjoining dairy to be cooled, not having been touched by hand or exposed to the dusty air of the cowshed at all. After it had been milked, each cow was let out and another one came in from the yard to take its place.

"It's all very nice," said Ian when he saw it, "but it seems a very elaborate affair just to save carrying a few gallons of milk."

"Ah, but that's not the only advantage," said the college herdsman, who had overheard Ian's remark. "In the yard the cows are much healthier because they get plenty of exercise and sunlight that they wouldn't get if they were tied up by the neck in a cowshed all day. Also, we can produce much cleaner milk in the parlour because it is used only for milking, and as a result doesn't get contaminated with dust and dirt like a cowshed does."

The herdsman explained to the students how to operate the machines and also explained briefly how the cow produces milk.

"The milking machine," he went on, "removes that milk in the same way as a calf would do, partly by suction and partly by squeezing. Unlike the calf though, the milking machine doesn't know when to stop and if it is left on too long after the milk has stopped flowing it may damage the delicate spongy tissue and cause a disease which results in a big drop in the cow's milk yield.

"Fortunately, we can now cure the disease (mastitis) by using penicillin, but we don't want to have to, so don't let me see you leaving those machines on too long!" he warned.

GREAT PRECAUTIONS

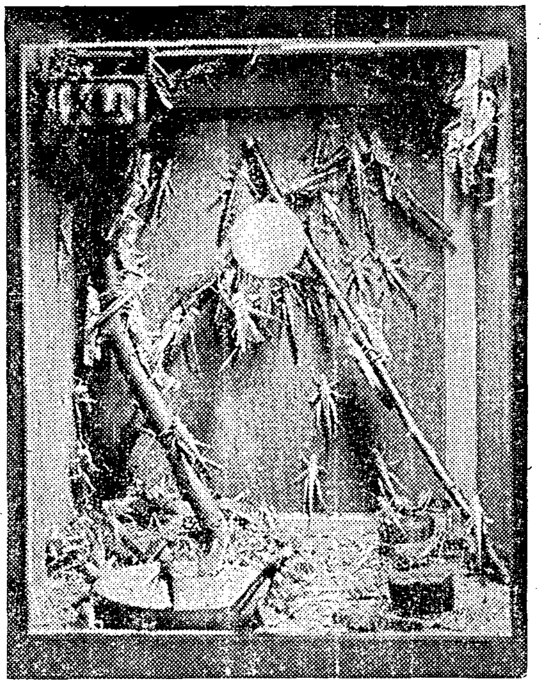
Ian noticed the great precautions that were taken to keep the milk absolutely clean. All hands were washed thoroughly, the cows' udders and flanks were washed with disinfectant solution, and then carefully dried. After each cow had been milked, the milking machine was dipped into disinfectant before being placed on the next cow.

The herdsman was proud of an unbroken record of clean milk reports from the large wholesale dairy, and impressed on students the importance of it all.

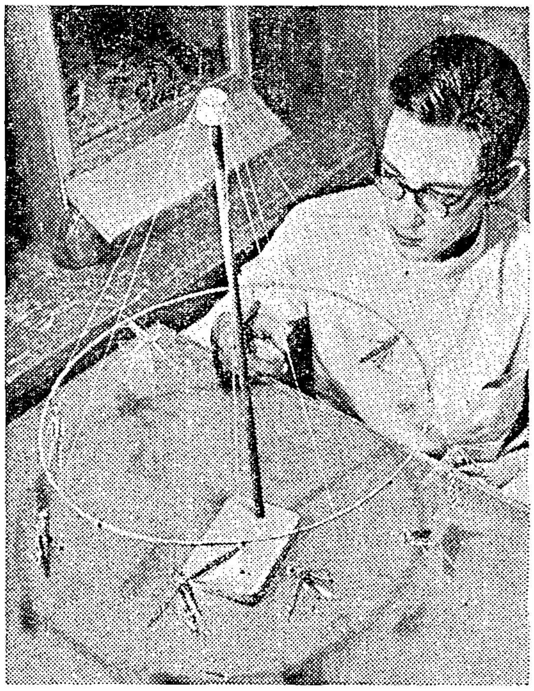
As Ian and his three fellow milkers walked through the snow to the dairy on the last morning of their duty, he voiced all their thoughts when he said:

"I wonder if the average housewife realises how much hard work and trouble go into making sure milk is kept free from germs."

THIS IS OPERATION LOCUST



A case of locusts at the Natural History Museum



Making locusts fly—on a little "roundabout"

In the Natural History Museum at South Kensington is a "farm" where an ancient enemy of man's food supplies is carefully studied by scientists. There, at the Anti-Locust Research Centre, large numbers of captive locusts are hatched out every day, to be closely watched at every stage of their voracious life.

When they are grown up their flying habits are observed. A few at a time, the insects are placed on a miniature roundabout, and as soon as they feel themselves suspended in the air they begin to fly, thus enabling the observer to estimate the speed and duration of their flight.

A swarm of locusts can fly at about ten miles an hour, without a following wind, and often travels some 100 miles a day in search of food.

A fully-grown locust has a wingspan of five inches, and weighs about one-tenth of an ounce; but such are their numbers that a single swarm may weigh 20,000 tons — countless millions that blacken the sky and can eat their own weight of green vegetation in a day.

When the plague has passed, "there remained not any green thing, either tree or herb of the field . . ." as we read in Exodus.

The locusts in the museum are brought up in cases heated to the temperature of tropical Africa, an electric bulb supplying light and heat. They are fed on fresh grass and wheat bran and, so that they keep lively, are given sticks to climb and fly from!

In addition to studying these terrible pests, the South Kensington workers form a vitally important information centre in a campaign against locusts that is being fought over huge areas of Africa, the Middle East, and Asia.

Some 1000 telegrams a year come to the Research Centre from widely separated areas where locusts breed. Experts then plot the positions of swarms on large-scale maps, and from long experience of their movements can cable warnings to countries or districts likely to be invaded.

There are 35 nations co-operating in the international anti-locust war, and it is claimed that no country has been invaded without warning for 15 years.

Long warning of an attack is needed because the battle is usually fought where transport problems are at their worst—in deserts some distance from the threatened cultivated area. The locust-fighters, with trucks, jeeps, and planes await the signal to move into action.

Poisoned bait is a well-favoured method of destroying a swarm, so the scientists at South Kensington make many experiments to find an easily-obtainable food that can be spread as bait. Wheat bran is most widely used, but it is expensive.

Scientists like those in London, and others in Africa and elsewhere, are doing work of tremendous importance for mankind. Locusts destroy the food of some of the poorest people in the world—and threaten everyone in an age when the Earth's population is overtaking its present food-producing capacity.

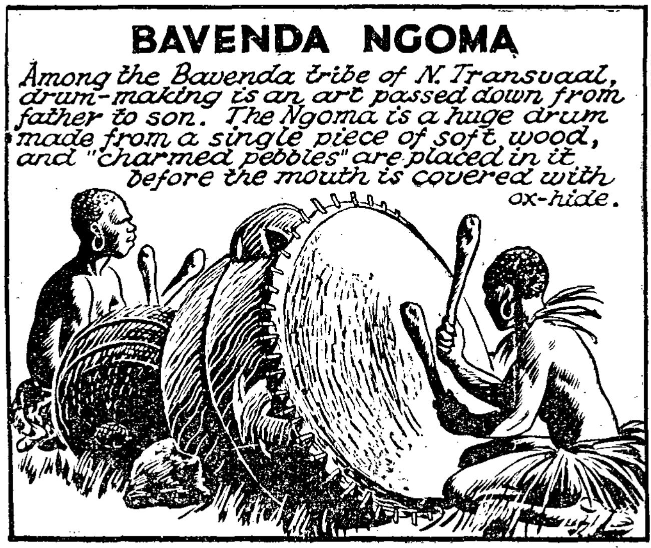
X-RAY SEARCH FOR INSECTS

A new type of inspection apparatus has been invented for use in food factories in order to detect insects and similar pests in nuts, grain, and other foodstuffs before they are processed.

As samples of the foodstuffs are passed through the apparatus X-ray photographs are taken, the films are developed immediately, and if any insects are revealed the whole consignment can be condemned as unfit.

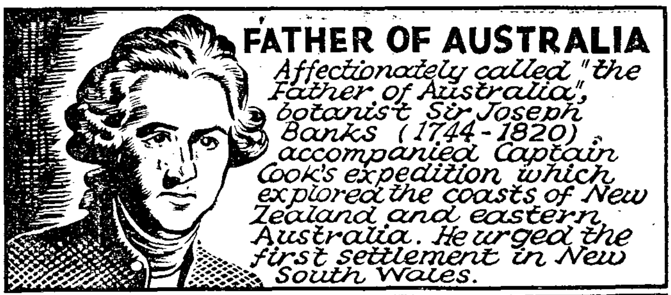
Empire Mosaic—27

by Ridgway



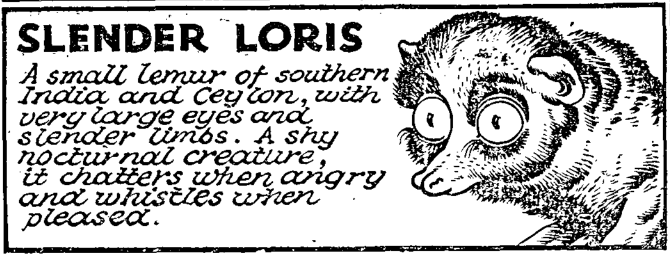
BAVENDA NGOMA

Among the Bavenda tribe of N. Transvaal, drum-making is an art passed down from father to son. The Ngoma is a huge drum made from a single piece of soft wood, and "charmed pebbles" are placed in it before the mouth is covered with ox-hide.



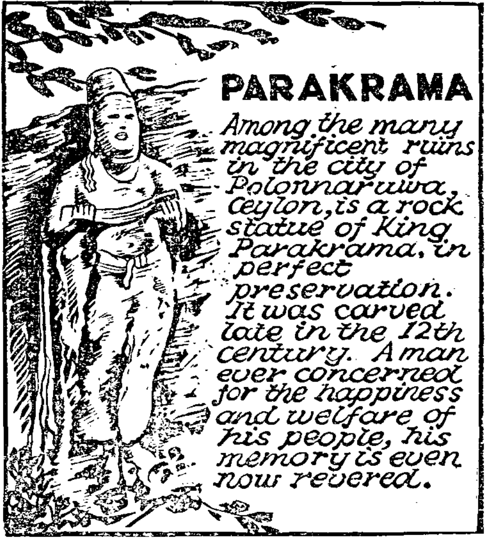
FATHER OF AUSTRALIA

Affectionately called "the Father of Australia", botanist Sir Joseph Banks (1744-1820) accompanied Captain Cook's expedition which explored the coasts of New Zealand and eastern Australia. He urged the first settlement in New South Wales.



SLENDER LORIS

A small lemur of southern India and Ceylon, with very large eyes and slender limbs. A shy nocturnal creature, it chatters when angry and whistles when pleased.



PARAKRAMA

Among the many magnificent ruins in the city of Polonnaruwa, Ceylon, is a rock statue of King Parakrama, in perfect preservation. It was carved late in the 12th century. A man ever concerned for the happiness and welfare of his people, his memory is even now revered.

MOTORING IS SO SIMPLE

In one of the new American cars nearly all the usual manual operations are either assisted or carried out entirely by electric motors.

Steering and braking, for example, are power-assisted. Provided the engine is running, the front wheels may be turned from side to side with no more than finger pressure on the steering wheel. Braking requires only a gentle foot pressure, and power-assistance does the rest.

Windows are raised or lowered automatically by pressing a button on the dashboard. Electric motors also adjust the front seat backward or forward and in height, as required. The hood is also raised or lowered by press-button control.

Like many other new American models, this car has no clutch or gear-levers; changing is done automatically.

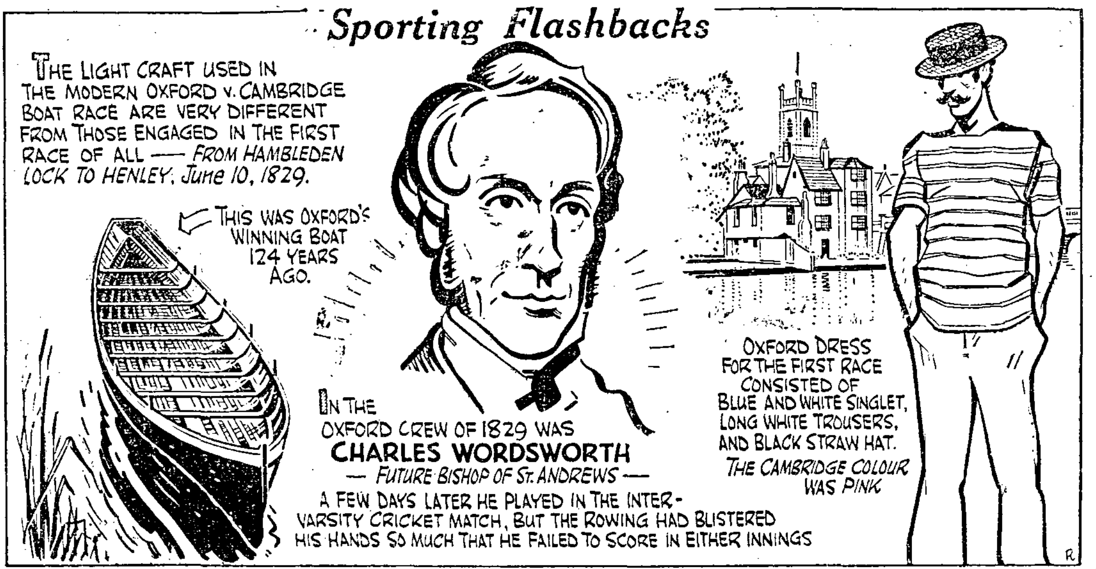
The American motor industry is now producing cars at the rate of six million a year, the vast majority being bought by Americans themselves.

By comparison with this country, last year British motorists bought about 180,000 new cars—or something like one three-hundredth of the number available to Americans. The population of the United States, however, is only about three times that of Great Britain.

BUT CARS ARE NOT SO SIMPLE

The efficiency of a modern motor-car is the result of co-operation between many workers. The works manager of a well-known motor firm has stated that in the production of a car no fewer than 766 different crafts and trades are involved.

Even separate components were often the result of much co-operation. For instance, a dynamo uses 16 basic materials and is made up of 100 different parts, and an ignition coil is made up of 30 basic materials and has 40 parts.


Sporting Flashbacks
THE LIGHT CRAFT USED IN THE MODERN OXFORD v. CAMBRIDGE BOAT RACE ARE VERY DIFFERENT FROM THOSE ENGAGED IN THE FIRST RACE OF ALL — FROM HAMBLEDEN LOCK TO HENLEY, June 10, 1829.
THIS WAS OXFORD'S WINNING BOAT 124 YEARS AGO.
IN THE OXFORD CREW OF 1829 WAS CHARLES WORDSWORTH — FUTURE BISHOP OF St. ANDREWS —
A FEW DAYS LATER HE PLAYED IN THE INTER-VARSITY CRICKET MATCH, BUT THE ROWING HAD BLISTERED HIS HANDS SO MUCH THAT HE FAILED TO SCORE IN EITHER INNINGS
OXFORD DRESS FOR THE FIRST RACE CONSISTED OF BLUE AND WHITE SINGLET, LONG WHITE TROUSERS, AND BLACK STRAW HAT.
THE CAMBRIDGE COLOUR WAS PINK
R

COMRADES-IN-ARMS AGAINST THE INVADING SEA

The peoples of our East Anglian coast and of Holland are kindred in bitter tragedy: both have suffered terrible loss of life and damage to property through the catastrophic floods at the beginning of this month—floods which came as a grim reminder of their centuries-old struggle against the encroaching North Sea.

"I have seen the hungry ocean gain Advantage on his kingdom of the shore," wrote Shakespeare; but nobody has seen it more often than the shore-dwellers of East Anglia and the Low Countries.

The fate of the vanished Suffolk town of Dunwich typifies the bitter struggle. A thousand years ago it was the finest town in East Anglia, with several churches, its own harbour, and a shipbuilding yard. Bit by bit the sea devoured it, and in 1920 the last remains of the last church disappeared. Today Dunwich lies beneath the waves.

Nearly all the 50 miles of Suffolk's shores have been giving way to the relentless sea, and on the Norfolk coast, too, several villages have vanished since the Norman conquest.

King's Lynn has often known floods, and we are reminded by Antonia Nightingale in a recent letter to The Times that in 1374 a terrible sea-flood swept through the district, hurling ships far inland and drowning cattle in the pastures. In 1819 and again in 1862 the sea burst in.

Kent, too, has felt the sea's tooth before. The historian Camden tells us that in 1100 the county lost 4000 acres of Earl Godwin's lands, and was left the Goodwin Sands as a grim memorial.

But to find a natural disaster comparable with this month's, we have to go back to 1703. Floods in many parts of England in that year followed a great storm, and, together with shipwreck, were estimated to have drowned 8000 people. Several hundred ships were lost.

> **In the struggle with the sea Britain and our small country once again stand together.**
>
> *The Dutch Prime Minister in a message to The Sunday Times*

Great as have been the sufferings and losses of the British people through floods, they are small when set beside those of their doughty Dutch neighbours, much of whose land is below sea level.

A ceaseless building and repairing of dykes has been going on in Holland for hundreds of years, yet no country in Europe has suffered so terribly from the inroads of the sea. In 1421 the sea poured in and drowned over 110,000 people. In the next century some 400,000 people are said to have been drowned.

Yet floods have been deliberately caused by the heroic Dutch in the defence of their country. In 1574, when they were fighting the Spaniards, they opened the dykes to drive away the usurping enemy. "Better a drowned land than a lost land," they declared.

Again, when the Nazis invaded Holland in 1940, its defenders flooded wide expanses of their rich fields to hold them up. The sacrifice was in vain then; but in October 1944 the Dutch were willing for the R.A.F. to breach the dykes of Walcheren Island to drive out the Germans. The sea poured through the bomb-made breaches across 35,000 of Walcheren's 40,000 acres of productive agricultural land, and submerged villages.

After the war British engineers helped the Dutch in the colossal task of rebuilding the dykes and reclaiming swamped Walcheren.

Of one thing we may be sure; the friends and admirers of this little lowland nation will help them to wrest their precious soil once again from the grey North Sea.

UNDAUNTED ARTIST

The name of John Buchanan, who died the other day, is one that will long be remembered. He was born without hands, yet every year in homes up and down the land appeared beautifully-lettered and coloured Christmas cards and calendars which he had designed.

John Buchanan was born in Glasgow, and when he was nine came under the care of the National Children's Home and Orphanage, where boys and girls are trained to earn a living for themselves. What could this boy do, however, without hands?

He was sent to the cripples branch of the Home at Chipping Norton, and it was his persistence as much as his courage that impressed everyone there.

He went in for his Tenderfoot Badge, for instance, and the Scoutmaster felt that such a boy should be allowed to pass if he tied just one knot. Not so, John!

"No fear!" he said. "I won't take the badge if I can't tie the lot." And tie the lot he did!

He edited the school magazine, and it was soon seen that he had artistic talents. He was sent to the Oxford School of Art, and learned to draw and paint—an artist without hands.

John Buchanan never rested content with anything but his best, and his great speciality, lettering and beautiful borders, reveal unmistakable gifts. Copies of his work are sold in aid of the National Children's Home and Orphanages.

◆

BURNS'S GARDEN OF ROSES

A Robert Burns Garden has been started in Dumfries opposite the house where the poet lived; on the spot where the town's refuse destructor stood for 35 years a collection of rose bushes given by the local Rotary Club has been planted.

It was in the nearby house that Burns wrote the song, My Love is Like a Red, Red Rose.

THE CORAL ISLAND—R. M. Ballantyne's story of the South Seas, told in pictures (5)

WHERE ARE THE OTHER TWO CUBS?

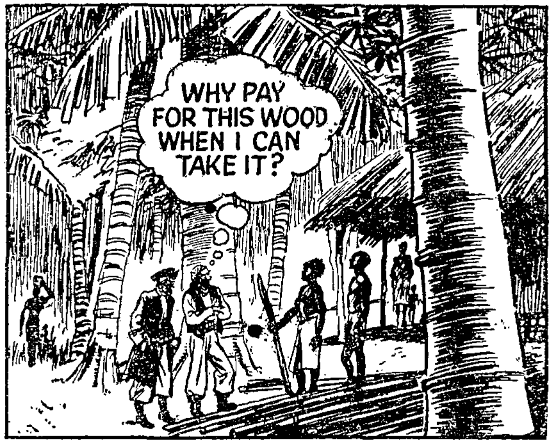
More men appeared, and Ralph realised that the pirate ship's sailing out to sea was just a trick to lure the boys from their hiding-place. The captain threatened to shoot him if he would not say where the other two were hidden, but Ralph staunchly refused to tell him. The schooner was recalled by a signal, and Ralph, now the pirates' prisoner, was roughly bundled into a boat and rowed out to her.

IT WAS ONLY A JOKE!

On board, the captain told Ralph they were not pirates, but peaceful sandal-wood traders. The black flag had been a joke, he said. He was sorry he had been rough with Ralph, but he had lost his temper. It was too late to go back now. "I'm in want of a good honest boy like you to look after the cabin and keep the log," he said. "Would you like to become a sandal-wood trader?"

BOY... THIS IS NO PLACE FOR YOU!

Puzzled, Ralph agreed—on condition that he was put ashore at the first civilised island. Later he made friends with an odd fellow named Bill, who told him the ship was pirate as well as trader. "She trades when she can't take by force, but takes by force when she can," said this strange man.


WHY PAY FOR THIS WOOD WHEN I CAN TAKE IT?

Bill told Ralph he had witnessed many bloody deeds on the schooner's decks. The vessel reached an island rich in sandal-wood. On previous visits the captain had bought the wood because the natives seemed too numerous for him to seize it by force. But Ralph overheard him and the mate plotting to land at night, treacherously shoot the natives, and steal their valuable wood. Horrified, he told Bill, who hated the captain. Bill worked out a plan for spoiling his enemy's murderous scheme.

How can Bill thwart the bloodthirsty captain? See next week's instalment

THE SILKEN SECRET

A thrilling serial of Queen Anne's day

by Geoffrey Trease

Dick Arlington, an 18th-century boy, is staying with Celia Mount at her uncle's silk-mill in Derbyshire. A mysterious Italian, Foscari, has followed Mr. Mount on a mission of revenge. In stalking him, the young people have been in trouble with the local landowner, Lord Lathkill.

11. Foscari strikes again

CHARLES MOUNT was no great respector of lords. He said little that night, but in the morning he came down to breakfast in his best suit, saddled his horse, and rode off to Lathkill House.

"The bird's flown," he announced at dinner, on his return.

"Foscari?" queried Fazeley.

"Ay. He were nowhere to be found." Mr. Mount smiled grimly at the memory. "Me lord's more civil now. Protested he'd known nothing about the man; only engaged him a month or two ago. Well, he's gone now," he concluded. "Reckon he saw game were up yesterday, when the youngsters showed up like that. He knows that *we* know a bit too much, and I'll wager we've seen the last of him."

"I hope so indeed," said Fazeley.

There was no trace of the woman, either, or of the English accomplice. From his description, however, Will Wirksworth identified him as a ruffian who had once been the terror of the district. "He were a lead-miner once," said the old foreman scornfully, "but he niver fancied the hard work."

ALL the same, though the danger-clouds had lifted, precautions were not relaxed. The attempt to burn down the new mill had roused the anger of the men, and there were plenty of volunteers to keep guard at night.

"Tis worth while making double sure," Mr. Mount admitted. "New mill starts workin' next week. Shouldn't like aught to go wrong when we're so near."

His eyes burned with enthusiasm. The fulfilment of his dream was in sight. The complicated machinery of the throwing-mill was at last almost completed. In a few more days the huge water-wheel would begin to turn. The cogs would engage, and slowly but surely the strength of the mountain-river would pulse through the man-made veins of the mill. Inch by inch, yard by yard, the silken yarn would come forth—the first ever to be thrown in an English mill.

"And when I have seen that happen," Fazeley insisted with a smile, "I must return to London. I cannot trespass on your hospitality any longer."

"Fiddlesticks, man! If I didn't like your company, I'd ha' sent ye off weeks ago!"

"It will be so dull without you," Celia pleaded.

"Without *me*?" inquired the little journalist drily.

"Of course."

"I think you will find other means of amusement, my dear. At all events, I must beg you to excuse me. London is in my blood, and though I wander the world I am always drawn back sooner or later, to Ludgate and the Fleet. Dick must decide for himself, though. I have nothing to offer him. He may prefer to look for work elsewhere."

"We must talk o' that," said Mr. Mount. "Happen he'll not need to look far. I've got him weighed up, and he's a likely lad. An' what's amusing *you*, lass?" he demanded, as Celia choked behind her handkerchief.

"Oh, nothing, Uncle! I was j-just remembering something I said to him when we first met."

"H'm!" Mr. Mount snorted suspiciously. "Well, I'd best get back to mill. Wasted enough time already!" And he stamped out of the room with his usual restless energy.

IF her uncle could think of little but his new mill, Celia—now that the threat of the Italians had passed away—had little mind for anything but the first public dance of the season, which was now almost upon them.

A fortnight ago she had fought, and won, her battle to attend it.

Mrs. Ruddle had declared she was far too young. Mr. Mount, caught in a good mood, had said he saw no harm. But he was hanged if *he* were going to dress up and go prancing about like a monkey—and anyhow, wouldn't a young girl need a married lady to look after her?

"Of course," she agreed. "Really, Uncle Charles, it was most inconsiderate of you never to marry. This is just when an aunt would have been useful. But it's of no consequence," she added with a forgiving smile, "because Mrs. Needham has offered to take me in her party, if you agree."

"The Mayor's wife? Has she indeed?" Mr. Mount grinned like a schoolboy. There was a shrewd look in his eyes. "That were mighty thoughtful of Mrs. Needham."

Thoughtful was the word. Mrs. Needham had no daughters who would suffer from the competition of Celia's red-gold hair and milky skin. But she had several growing sons with their way to make in the world, who, in another year or two, would appreciate not only Celia's looks but her position as Mr. Mount's niece. The mill would be a fine inheritance for someone, and, with Mr. Mount a confirmed bachelor, it would most likely come to Celia.

Fazeley and Dick were going to the dance too. Mrs. Needham could have done without Dick, but Fazeley would lend a London polish to the occasion.

So the great evening came, with Dick a good deal more nervous than Celia. He had brushed his suit, polished his shoes till the black leather winked as brightly as the metal buckles, and re-tied his cravat half a dozen times. But he was all too well aware that he cut a modest figure beside Celia, superb in a hoop skirt of honey-gold silk, with her gleaming hair piled high in grown-up style and her grey-green eyes twinkling wickedly over her fan.

"Do I look well?" she inquired demurely.

Dick laughed. "So far as I can see—at this distance! That immense skirt makes you rather unapproachable. You look like a bell," he teased her, "with a red-topped handle."

"Pig!" She swiped at him with her fan, but he danced away out of range.

Then the Needhams' coach came to the door and they drove off. "Enjoy yeselves," Mr. Mount called after them indulgently.

"We will!" promised Celia from the darkness.

"So she should," cackled the old housekeeper with unusual benevolence. "She shouldn't have a care in the world."

Nor had she. If it was an ordeal for Dick, for Celia it was a glorious adventure. She adored every minute of it—every note of the music, every step of the gavotte and the minuet, every bow and smile and compliment from the young men who partnered her.

"Celia seems to have made a powerful impression on the county—or at least on its younger gentlemen," said the journalist, meeting Dick in the crowded doorway halfway through the evening. "If I had danced half as many dances as she has done, I should be too stiff

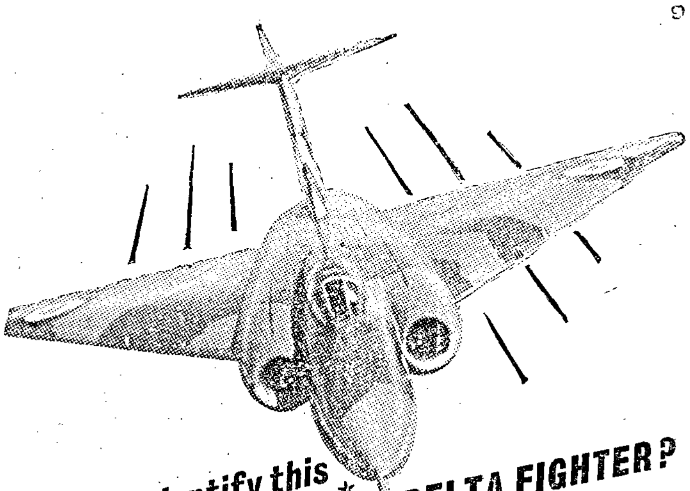
Continued on page 10

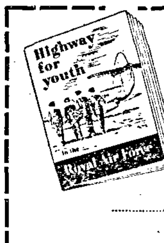
It's strange but true . . .

. . . that **Breadfruit,** an important food of the inhabitants of the Pacific Islands, grows on trees, and is cooked in much the same fashion as bread.

The tree grows to a height of between 40 and 60 feet. The fruit, which is about four to eight inches in diameter, has a white, fibrous inner pulp, and can be roasted, boiled, or cut into slices and fried.

Cloth is made from the fibrous inner bark of the tree, and the wood is used for canoe and furniture making.





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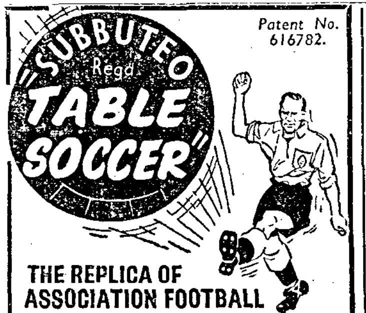

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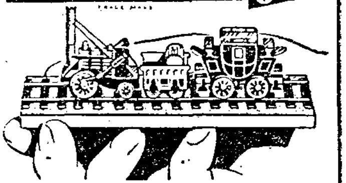

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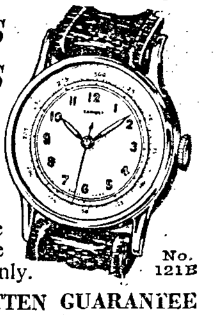

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SPORTS SHORTS

DON TUNBRIDGE has won the Stock Exchange seven-mile road walking championship for the fifth successive time. He won the race, held in Regent's Park, London, in the record time of 54 minutes 4 seconds.

THE C. N. Jackson Trophy, awarded annually by the A.A.A. to the Athlete of the Year, was recently presented to John Disley, our greatest-ever steeplechaser. Now a master at the Isleworth Grammar School, Disley is the first Welshman ever to win the trophy.

Anne Parsons, of Heathcote County Secondary School, Chingford, Essex, receives some expert advice from Jack Hillyard, the A.A.A. coach, on the correct stance for throwing a javelin.

THE All-England Netball Association's inter-County Championships will be held this year at St. Helier, Jersey, during Easter. Surrey, whose team includes Mrs. Sheila Lerwill, world high jump record-holder, are hoping to win the title for the fifth successive time. There are three million affiliated players in the All-England Association.

RUNNER-UP in the South African junior tennis championships was 13-year-old Jean Forbes, regarded as the most promising girl player ever reared in South Africa. She is to be coached by Mrs. Bobbie Davie, who will be remembered in this country as Miss Bobbie Heine.

PAT SMITH, of Worthing, is not only holder of the Sussex women's closed squash rackets title; she has appeared in county hockey trials and is also expected to gain prominence at tennis and cricket. Her brother Don is the Sussex opening batsman.

SIR WILLIAM COLLINS Secondary Technical School, of North-West London, decided to run a Rugby XV only last autumn. Although still without a ground, they have won their first nine games with a total score of 143 points to 23. The team is captained by Calvin Williams, a Welsh boy, and includes a South African and a Turk from Cyprus.

THE Gloucester table tennis team playing in the Wilmott Cup (the national men's team championship) is one of the youngest in the country. It is led by Brian Merritt, 18-year-old English international, and includes Roy Morley and Micky Morgan, both of whom are 17. Morley recently gained his junior international "cap."

ONLY 14 cricketers have ever scored a century in their first Test innings. The latest is 23-year-old Bruce Pairaudeau, who achieved this distinction in a Test for the West Indies against India.

PHYSICAL fitness is regarded in Swedish schools as important as the "Three R's." In 1919 "The School Fitness Badge" was awarded to the first boys and girls to pass certain tests, and recently the millionth badge was presented.

THE SILKEN SECRET

Continued from page 9

to move tomorrow. Where is she now? Can you see her?"

Dick glanced round. "Not at the moment, sir. I expect even Celia has to sit down and fan herself occasionally!"

JUST then Mrs. Needham sailed up like a powerful man-o'-war in costly velvet. "Mr. Fazeley! Have you seen Miss Mount?"

"Not for the past few minutes, ma'am."

"It is really most provoking." The Mayor's wife was struggling between vexation and anxiety to stand well with the Mount household. "She is a dear girl. Of course, very young, but if she is old enough to come to a ball she is old enough to behave with propriety."

"What has she done, ma'am?" asked Dick, his heart sinking.

Mrs. Needham stared at him as though his question were idiotic.

"Must I instruct you, young man," she demanded freezingly, "that, when a girl is not dancing, her place is beside the lady who is looking after her? Miss Mount is not dancing this minuet—yet I have not seen her this quarter of an hour."

Fazeley looked grave. "No doubt there must be some quite simple explanation, ma'am. Perhaps she has turned faint with the heat—her partner may have taken her out into the fresh air."

"Very possible!" said Mrs. Needham with a sniff.

"Dick and I will step outside and see. Come along, Dick." And they edged their way out into the dark courtyard of the inn. The cold night was like a slap in the face.

There was no sign of anybody in the yard. Dick let out a sudden exclamation as his foot caught something and sent it rolling across the cobbles. "What's this?" he grunted, stooping and holding it up in the beam of light slanting from a window. "A shoe? Mr. Fazeley — it's Celia's dancing shoe!"

There was no doubt of it. She had flaunted her new shoes so proudly, both Dick and Fazeley knew exactly what they looked like. But where was Celia? She could not have walked away with only one shoe.

But she could have been carried ... The same name sprang to their lips simultaneously: *Foscari!*

To be continued

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— G. P. KEEF —
WILLINGDON — EASTBOURNE

Coronation Corner

Part of London's Victoria Embankment is being exclusively reserved for schoolchildren to see the Coronation Procession. Some 30,000 will be accommodated. They will have to be in their places by 8 a.m. and will be entertained with music.

Red, white, and blue

Harrogate hopes to have a floral Union Jack containing 60,000 plants—geranium, alyssum, and lobelia—and measuring 110 feet in width.

An 18-year-old artist who is doing his National Service, Geoffrey Miles of Wembley, has painted a portrait in oils of the Queen as a Coronation gift for his parents. He painted his picture from newspaper cuttings. Last year some of his work was in the Embankment Gardens Exhibition.

Welcome in flowers

Many thousands of plants will be used to give a floral welcome to the Queen when she arrives in Edinburgh for her State visit from June 23 to 29.

The Whitsun Jamboree on the Queen's estate at Sandringham is to be attended by 3000 Scouts from six countries.

A powerful new lens is to be used by Television for out-of-doors work at the Coronation. It is 40 inches long—nearly twice as big as any lens now used by the B B C. It is said to bring a man's face half a mile away so close that one could see a fly on his nose.

There has been tremendous demand for sets of Coronation coins. The set, costing 8s., consists of nine coins from half-a-crown to a farthing.

Spending a holiday at school

Children will go to school at St. Andrews, Fife, on Coronation Day. They are being invited to attend to view the Coronation on T V sets.

The "Coronation Cat" will be selected from over 500 cats at a show to be held in London on October 9. Expected to be the biggest ever held in Britain, the show is being sponsored by the Cat Fancy, the equivalent of the Kennel Club for dogs.

Catering students are to take part in a competition to plan a Coronation menu in English. The competition is being run by the Hotel and Catering Institute and the Travel and Holidays Association.

C N Competition No. 21

SIX WRIST-WATCHES TO BE WON!

THIS week's competition is a simple observation test, for which six wrist-watches—three for girls and three for boys—will be awarded as prizes.

The puzzle is to find 30 objects having names beginning with S in the picture below. There is a Satchel, for example—can you spot 29 others ?

Remember that you are asked for only 30 S objects, although you may find more. Now, what are they ?

List your answers neatly in ink or pencil on a postcard, or plain paper. Add your name, age, and full address ; then ask an adult to sign your effort as your own written work.

Finally, cut out the C N competition token at the foot of the back page of this issue, and pin or paste it to your entry, which must be posted to :

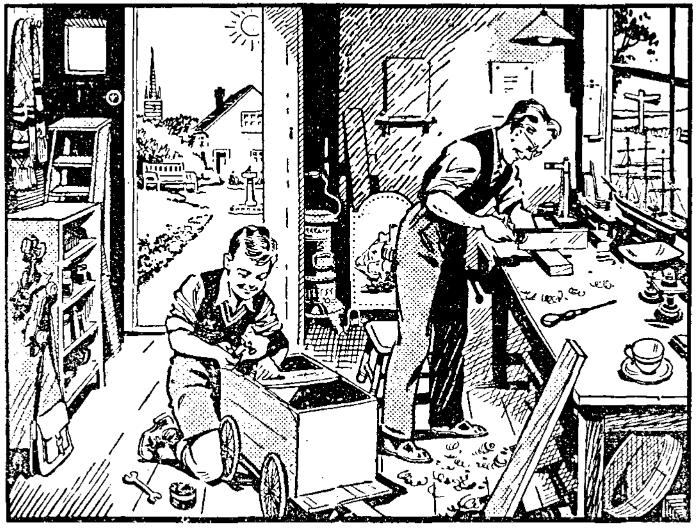
C N Competition No. 21,
3 Pilgrim Street, London, E.C.4 (Comp.),

to reach this office by Tuesday, March 3, the closing date.

The prizes will be awarded for the neatest correct entries, according to age.

This competition is open to all readers under 17 living in Great Britain, Northern Ireland, and the Channel Islands. The Editor's decision is final.

Find the objects beginning with S !



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THE BRAN TUB

RIDDLE-ME-REE

My first is in fifty and also in five;
My second's in honey-bees, also in hive;
My third is in climbing but never in height;
My fourth is in darkness but not in the light;
My fifth is in mousetrap and also in mouse;
My sixth is in quarrel but never in grouse;
My seventh's in January, also December;
My eighth's in July but not in September.
My whole is a time which is here once again,
When days are oft dull and there's plenty of rain.

Answer next week

Sammy Simple

"That's my half-crown; I've just lost it," said Jim to Sammy as he picked up a florin from the pavement.

"Just my luck," muttered Sammy. "I'll have to owe you sixpence."

Black mark

A STUBBORN old coalman from Joppa
Would go to his work in a topper,
Till a friend said: "Old chap,
You must purchase a cap,
For the headgear you're wearing's not proper."

FROLICS AT THE JACKOTOWN MUSEUM

Jacko had consented to amuse Baby and his friends. "We want to hunt wild animals," the young ones had chanted. A trip to the museum was the best Jacko could offer. Jacko was chatting to the museum guide when sounds of mirth fell upon their ears. Their investigation confirmed their worst fears. Within two minutes they were all bundled outside. Even Baby's plea that he was only stuffing the animals would not appease the guide.

Spot Ted

Ted is a busy lad—here, there, and everywhere. Each line of the following verse suggests a word or words which end with his name. For instance, the first line sugests Feted. Can you spot the others?

The tribesmen made a fuss of Ted;
They loathed the creature he had shot.
Their Chief met him with open arms,
And said: "The tribe owe you a lot."

Answers next week

BEDTIME CORNER

Pipistrelle wakes up

It was while Jinny was staying on her cousin's farm that she found Pipistrelle.

She did not know what he was at first when she found him hanging head downwards from the corner of a cross beam in the barn. His black leathery wings were folded tightly to his furry body. He looked for a moment just like an old fur glove.

Her cousin John laughed at that, and explained: "It's a Bat, Jinny. You know, a Flittermouse. Pipistrelle we call him. He comes out at dusk and flies round catching insects."

Jinny still could not believe he was alive, he felt so cold.

"He's only sleeping until the March winds make the daffodils dance," said John comfortingly. "Then he'll go darting after insects all over the farmyard. You may easily see one fluttering over your own town garden, for they live around towns, too."

"I wish I could see him fly now," said Jinny. "I'm sure we have no bats at home."

Every day she went to see him hanging from his perch. Then, one mild afternoon, he had gone. "Oh, John," Jinny cried. "The barn cat, or an owl, must have got him."

"No, they haven't," said John comfortingly: "Look!"

And there, wheeling and darting over the thatched roof of the barn went Pipistrelle. Suddenly he swooped, and caught another of the insects which the unexpected mildness of the day had wakened from their sleep in the thatch.

After several more swoops, Pipistrelle vanished into the barn. And when Jinny looked later by lantern light, there he was, hanging upside down, fast asleep again.

"If I had known we would have a mild day like this," John said, "I would have told you beforehand that he might wake for an hour and fly. But I didn't want to disappoint you."

Jane Thornicroft

FAMILIAR TREES

The lovely silver birch is easily recognised by its silvery bark and graceful, slender branches.

It has two types of catkins: those which hang down are male and the smaller, upright ones, are female. The lower part of the trunk has patches of rough, dark bark, which contrast sharply with the smooth, silver bark above.

Birch timber is used for veneers in modern furniture. Its bark possesses lasting qualities lacking in the wood and has been put to many uses, including the making of baskets, mats, waterproof boots and shoes, packing crates, and roofing for houses.

CHAIN QUIZ

Solutions to the following clues are linked, the last two letters of the first answer being the first two of the second, and so on.

1. Port of the Yemen, near the southern end of the Red Sea; at one time a great centre of the coffee trade, it has given its name to a fine kind of coffee.

2. Eighteen-century Austrian composer, son of a wheelwright; played in a street band, where a famous comedian heard him and asked him to compose music for a comic opera.

3. One of the three largest rivers in Europe, about 1400 miles long; flows into the Black Sea, but is also connected to the Baltic by tributaries and canals.

4. The stoat in winter dress—white coat and black tail; its fur has for centuries been used for court and legal costume.

Answer next week

Crossword puzzle

READING ACROSS. 1 Competent. 4 Employs. 7 Busy insect. 8 Snake. 9 Antelope of South Africa. 11 Poem. 13 Rise and fall of sea. 14 Halt. 15 Associate of the Royal Academy. 16 Finished. 18 Container for flowers. 21 Vegetable. 22 Lukewarm. 23 Rested. 25 Observe. 26 Fishermen use them. 27 Flowerless plant.

READING DOWN. 1 Aid. 2 Have faith in. 3 Show the way. 4 Ourselves. 5 Blemish. 6 Pace. 8 Anno Domini. 10 Close. 12 Set of documents. 14 Rescue. 16 Not closed. 17 Where the sun rises. 19 Recess in church. 20 First garden. 22 Tourist Trophy. 24 Roman copper coin.

1	2	3		■	4	5		6
7			■	8			■	
9			10		■	11	12	
13				■	14			
■		■	15			■		■
16		17		■	18	19		20
21			■	22				
	■	23	24		■	25		
26				■	27			

Answer next week

FARMER GRAY EXPLAINS

ANTLERS. "Look at my charm; it's made from a stag's horn," Ann told Farmer Gray.

"Stags don't have horns," teased Don.

"They do!" replied Ann.

"Don is right, Ann," laughed Farmer Gray. "Stags have antlers, which are quite different from horns. They consist of solid bone and are cast annually; then new ones grow."

"Why is that?" Ann asked.

"A stag does a deal of fighting," replied the farmer. "An antler may get broken and were it not replaced the stag would be severely handicapped."

Riddle in rhyme

My first is something greatly prized;
My next appears surrounded.
My whole's a book, packed full of thrills—
Excitement's there unbounded.

Answer next week

Rhyming problem

"Divide a yard of cord," said my big brother,
"So one piece is just four-fifths of the other.
And when you've done it, it will give me pleasure
To tell you just the length each piece will measure."

20 inches and 16 inches.

Soft thing

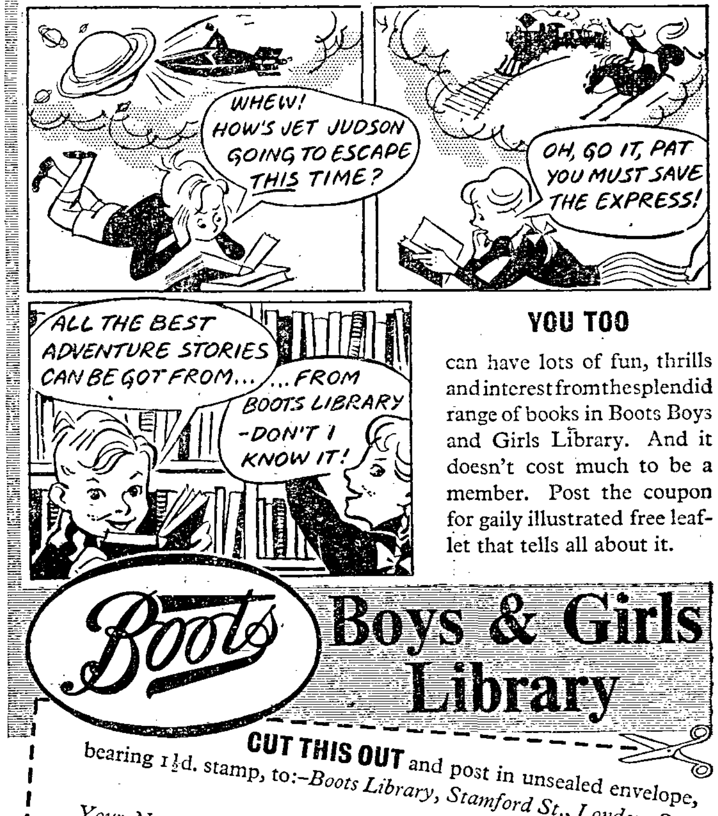
"How do you like your new job?" asked a friend.

"It's the best I've ever had," he replied delightedly. "All I have to do is climb up a ladder with loads of bricks and the chap at the top does all the work."

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

Crazy shopping. A meat pie, some sweets, a cake, a box of matches, a pot of honey, six *bread rolls, four pork chops, cooking fat and* butter, tinned pears, a pound of rice
Riddle in rhyme. Parrot
Riddle-me-ree. Pancakes
Chain Quiz
Francis, Israel, Elizabeth, Thomas
Find the animals
Ewe, hare, ox, rat, hog, ram, beaver
Hidden players. Holden, Brown, Chew, Aird

Fun by the Fireside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